

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are pending. Claims 8, 11-21 and 29-42 are hereby withdrawn, leaving claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 22-28 unchanged.

Restriction and Election

The Examiner has identified two groups of claims in the application: Group I (claims 1-10 and 22-29) drawn to various chromatography cartridges; and Group II (claims 11-21 and 30-42) drawn to manufacturing methods.

Applicant elects Group I (claims 1-10 and 22-29) without traverse, subject to traversal of the election of species requirement discussed below, and withdraws the claims of Group II from the present application. The Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the non-elected group in one or more divisional patent applications.

The Examiner has further identified four patentably distinct species of the claimed invention corresponding to each of the embodiments of Figures 1 and 2, 3, 4 and 5, and has required the election of one of these species.

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the election of species requirement. The Examiner has stated that no claim is considered to be generic. However, the Applicant disagrees. The Applicant respectfully submits that both independent claims 1 and 22, among others, are generic to all of the embodiments of Figures 1-5, and that the election of species requirement is improper.

Thus, the Applicant hereby provisionally elects, with traverse, the species corresponding to the embodiment of Figure 5. The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-7, 9, 10 and 22-28 read upon the elected species, and withdraws claims 8 and 29.

Early favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if he believes it would be helpful.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas S. Reynolds II", followed by a stylized flourish or symbol.

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